

Randi Razalenti

From: Carol Chesarek <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 8:42 AM
To: Jim Cathcart
Cc: Randi Razalenti; Michael Ahr
Subject: FW: Letter to Multnomah County re: North Tualatin Master Plan
Attachments: WMSWCD_LOS_Multnomah County Planning Commission_METRO_North Tualatin Mou....pdf

Dear Jim,

As you know, my neighborhood association meets on 3rd Tuesdays, so I will not be able to attend the WMSWCD board meeting tomorrow night.

I hope you will convey to the WMSWCD board my thanks to you and especially to Michael Ahr for his diligence in researching concerns about Metro's development applications for their North Tualatin Mountains Nature Park that I described in my letter and visit to the WMSWCD board at their December 2018 meeting. I appreciate the attention to my concerns and the thoroughness of your research.

I have read the revised draft letter, and the revisions resolve my concerns. I hope your board will decide to send a letter along the lines of this draft to the Multnomah County Planning Commission for their hearing. I have other concerns about Metro's application (for example, whether these facilities will experience the same parking overflow problems that Forest Park does, with users overflowing the parking provided and then parking along the non-existent shoulders of the adjacent rural roads and in private driveways), but I understand they are beyond what you feel it would be appropriate for your board to address.

I had one additional idea that the WMSWCD board might want to consider for potential mention in your letter, related to "Building Trust with the Local Community." Agencies that manage local parks often lack data on problems in their facilities because there is no good way for the public to report issues to them. If the public does not know how to report a problem, and the agency does not have a way to track reported problems, the result is often that the agency reports there are no problems instead of saying that they have not collected data. Members of the public have to be extremely motivated to research which agency operates a facility, find a phone number or email address, and take time to make a report. Even if they do, the report may not go to the right department, and agencies often don't have a way to track those reports over time.

So my suggestion is that Metro be required to display an easy to read phone number and email address the public can use to report problems at their North Tualatin Mountains Nature Park, and that they develop a system to track those reports. Metro should also at least consider providing the equivalent of Portland Parks & Recreation Rangers, who patrol their parks, provide outreach and educate users about park rules, look for user-built trails and homeless campers, and who can write exclusion notices for people who repeatedly violate the park rules. Portland's Park Rangers are uniformed city employees (not advocates for a particular type of recreation) who provide a visible presence and build positive relationships with the public.

It is my understanding from Multnomah County staff that the Planning Commission hearing on the Metro applications will not occur before November.

Many thanks again to you and Michael for all your work on this Metro Nature Park proposal.

Carol Chesarek

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From: Michael Ahr <Michael@wmswcd.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 12:29 PM
To: 'Carol L. Chesarek <[REDACTED]>';
<[REDACTED]>
Subject: Letter to Multnomah County re: North Tualatin Master Plan

Hello Carol,

I wanted to share our letter that serves as our staff recommendation to the board regarding the North Tualatin Master Plan. Our Board will review this at our Board Meeting next Tuesday, September 17 (6-8 pm) and may decide to take action on submitting the letter.

As always, members of the public are welcome to attend. We will have limited time for public comment, and you can refer to this link for additional meeting information including our public participation policy if you are interested in offering testimony: <https://wmswcd.org/people-places-things/people/board-meetings/>. Meeting materials that the Board will receive should be posted by Friday, September 13th.

Sincerely,

Michael Ahr
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